

APPARATUS, SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR
ELECTRONICALLY TEACHING PHONICS

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10 The present invention provides apparatus, systems and
methods for electronically teaching phonics. The exemplary
embodiment provides a base unit with multiple receiving wells for
blocks. The outer surface of each face of each block expresses
an alphabetic character. Each face of each alphabet block has
a unique bit pattern expressed in a pattern of electrically
conductive material that identifies the alphabetic character
expressed on the outer surface of the opposing block face.
15 Underneath the exposed surface of the floor of each block
receiving well, is an electronic sensing device. The electronic
sensing device uses capacitive coupling in accordance with a test
bit pattern to identify the alphabetic character expressed by
each block in each block receiving well. A computer device, such
20 as a microprocessor, identifies phonetic relationships between
the exposed letters and determines the phoneme for each exposed
alphabetic character for each block in a block receiving well.
The invention then audibly plays the phoneme representing each
exposed alphabetic character according to a player's
25 instructions.

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